

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	EAS.2
Historic Name:	Smith, Heman II House
Common Name:	
Address:	245 State Hwy
City/Town:	Eastham
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	20-127
Year Constructed:	r 1750
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	No style
Use(s):	Multiple Family Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture; Military
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood Shingle; Wood Foundation: Brick; Concrete Unspecified



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

P1-2

EAS.2

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's
Number

20/127

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

Form Number

2

Town

Eastham

Neighborhood or village)

245 State Highway

Common Name

Present Residential

Original "

Construction Mid 18th Century

See Bibliography*

Form Full Cape or "Double House"

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.

Foundation Brick and Concrete

Wall/Trim Shingles

Roof Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

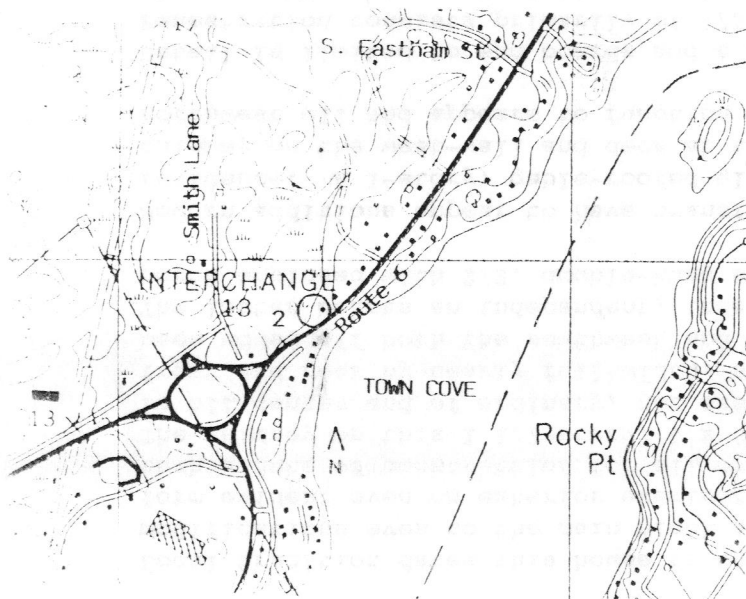
Major Alterations (with dates) Expanded with numerous rear ells (dates unknown, but recent modifications are present) an enclosed porch and nearly full-width shed dormers on both front and rear slopes of the main block.

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage .57 acres

Setting Located on Route 6, the principal Cape highway, just N. of the Orleans/Eastham rotary.



Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej

Organization: Commonwealth Collaborative

Date: February 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

BUILDING FORM

245 State Highway

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

Local tradition dates this house to the eighteenth century, but more recent modifications even to the main block are obvious. Basic elements of the house form evident even on exterior examination could support, but in no way confirm such a date of construction for all or even part of the main block.

The chimney on this 1 1/2-story, 5 x 3 bay, rectangular, gable-roofed dwelling is off center and of ordinary, not massive size. The roof line is broken both front and rear by nearly full-width, shed dormers. One-story, rear ells have been added off both the southwest and northwest corners of the rear elevation. The latter boasts an independent, interior chimney set at the ridge line and a porch enclosed with 2/2, double-hung sash on its north elevation.

Modern additions appear to have transformed the dwelling into a multi-family residence. A 1-story, gable-roofed ell with shed-roofed appendage, exterior chimney on the west-wall and deck at the southern exposure is attached to the northwest ell and appears to function as a rear cottage.

Detail is limited to end boards and a shallow, boxed, plain cornice. Fenestration consists primarily of 2/2, double-hung sash with plain trim set close to the eaves. Variations include a tri-part, continuous band of 2/2, double-hung sash on the north elevation of the main block and both 3/3 and 6/6, double-hung sash in the rear cottage addition where modern, casement windows and sliding doors have also been installed. A 3/3, fixed, window is included on the north side of the rear, shed dormer. The main entry is comprised of a nineteenth century, paneled wood, cottage door with square light set in plain trim. A similar door is utilized in the rear cottage addition. A modern cottage door with 6 lights exits to the enclosed porch.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE X See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to local historian, Howard Quinn, who dates this house to the eighteenth century, this property was subdivided from an original, larger holding of the Smith family that occupied a considerable area on the Eastham/Orleans boundary. Title research conducted in 1991 by Nancy Heller of the Eastham Historical Commission confirms Quinn's attribution and notes that Olive M. and Heman Smith II, mariner, purchased this property (Bk 104: Pg. 14) then 1 1/2 acres with dwelling and other buildings in 1870 from Jabez and Esther Sparrow of Orleans. Jabez Sparrow had expanded the holding in 1864 (Bk 104: Pg. 12) when he bought additional land near his house from Reuben Nickerson who reserved the right to remove clay from the property to use at this salt works, garden or orchard. The Smith and Sparrow families are

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X See continuation sheet.

 Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

inter-related, but no specific information about Jabez Sparrow was located. Local tradition holds that twelve British soldiers were "sheltered" in this house.

Heman Smith II (b. 1839), was the son of Lewis and Mehitable (aka. Hittie) Smith and the grandson of Ruth (Higgins) and Lewis Smith, a farmer and native of Orleans. He was a brother of Hannah Melinda (Smith) Rogers who lived nearby at 155 State Highway (see Form No. 1). Heman Smith became a ship's cook at age twelve. In 1883, he became a cook on a yacht. He married Olive M. Freeman, daughter of Lucy (Cummings) and Franklin Freeman. They had four children: Charles W., Frank R., Emma O. and Joshua F. Smith.

In 1923 (Book 394; Pg. 190), the heirs of Heman Smith transferred this property to Maria Angie Smith and Charles W. Smith, son of Heman Smith II, in exchange for the care and support of Olive Smith who was allowed to remain in residence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

*House file 245 State Highway, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

*Map of the Town of Eastham, 1794

Map of the Town of Eastham, 1830

*Quinn, Howard. Transcript of Oral History Tape, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

Resident and Business Directory of Cape Cod, 1901.

Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker & Co., 1880.

_____. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston Walker Lithographer and Publishing Co., 1908.

Wallings, Henry F. Map of Eastham. Boston: D. R. Smith Co., 1858.